LSC funded pre-employment provision offers

The LSC is the organisation with primary responsibility for the planning and funding of further education for those aged 16 and over in England. As part of this, the LSC has responsibility for ensuring the delivery of appropriate skills provision to Jobcentre Plus customers, who are a priority customer group. This provision includes basic skills and job-related skills training including that developed in response to the economic downturn.

The department for Work and Pensions (DWP) primarily contracts with providers to deliver provision specifically for long-term unemployed Jobcentre Plus customers who are supported under the various New Deal programmes. Participation in these programmes is mandatory and a condition of receiving benefit.

Through the delivery of an Integrated Employment and Skills Service, new joint management arrangements should ensure that the LSC and JCP offer complementary packages of flexible and responsive provision to meet the needs of JCP customers and employers in the local economy. JCP should be notified of provider and course details for all offers through joint management arrangements locally.

JCP front-line Advisers can directly refer customers with skills needs to the most appropriate local provision to meet those needs. With the exception of mandatory New Deal customers, JCP Advisers should prioritise LSC-funded skills provision in line with national agreements.

Response to Redundancy

Key features: Provision is typically 2 to 8 weeks full or part-time. Training must focus on skills development and relate to a sector offering current vacancies or in which there will be vacancies in the near future. Training offered need not lead to qualifications, but accreditation of units should be made available to provide individuals with transferable evidence of skills and knowledge for future progression. The individually tailored package includes help with careers advice, job search and job applications where appropriate. This is a short sharp intervention for people relatively close to being job ready.
**Target customer group:** Adults aged 18 and over under notice of redundancy or recently made redundant; those who have been unemployed for longer but who could be made job ready through this package of support.

**Delivery by:** A mix of contracted independent, college and voluntary providers across the sector.

**Outputs:** Skills (not necessarily qualifications) to keep someone in work or to obtain a new job; a job outcome with training.

**Key point:** This is for those who need a short, job-focussed intervention, not totally re-skilling, whilst under notice of redundancy or once they are out of work and claiming benefit.

**Note:** This should not be confused with the Jobcentre Plus Rapid Response Service.

IES Team
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